



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/812,471	03/30/2004	Jung Ta Chang	CHAN3246/EM	3261
23364	7590	06/16/2006		EXAMINER
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC				UNELUS, ERNEST
625 SLATERS LANE				
FOURTH FLOOR			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314				2187

DATE MAILED: 06/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/812,471	CHANG ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Ernest Unelus	2187	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 March 2004.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 30 March 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The instant application having Application No. 10/812,471 has a total of 7 claims pending in the application; there is 1 independent claim and 6 dependent claims, all of which are ready for examination by the examiner.

I. INFORMATION CONCERNING OATH/DECLARATION

Oath/Declaration

2. The applicant's oath/declaration has been reviewed by the examiner and is found to conform to the requirements prescribed in 37 C.F.R. 1.63.

II. INFORMATION CONCERNING DRAWINGS

Drawings

3. The applicant's drawings submitted are not acceptable for examination purposes.

III. REJECTIONS BASED ON PRIOR ART

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. **Claims 1-7** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mowery et al. (US pat. 6,984,152).

6. As per **claims 1**, Mowery discloses “a memory card (**combination of the media card 115 and media card adapter 110 in fig. 1**) having a plurality of different interfaces (**the interface for the media card and the interface for the adaptor in fig. 1, which is also shown in fig. 15.**), comprising: a function module (**Card Information Structure in fig. 1**); a controller (**controller 120 in fig. 1**) coupled to the function module for accessing (**see fig. 1**); a first buffer (**diodes 1615 to 1625 in fig. 16**) coupled to the controller (**controller 120 in fig. 1**) for sending a first control signal, the first buffer including a first resistor (**resistor 840**) for providing a first voltage level (**VCC=3.3V, see figures 6 and 16**); and a second buffer (**diodes 810 to 1630 in fig. 16**) coupled to the controller (**controller 120 in fig. 1**) for sending a second control signal, the second buffer including a second resistor (**resistor 830**) for providing a second voltage level (**VCC=1.8V, see figures 6 and 16**), wherein the memory card activates one of the interfaces for detecting the first voltage level of the first buffer when the memory card is inserted into a first card reader (**PC card slot 150 in fig. 1**) (**col. 5, lines 32–49 discloses “the passive socket of the present invention enables access to multiple types of flash media rather than just a single type. For purposes of this discussion, use of the conventional Media Card insertion detect pin which indicates the presence of a passive adaptor in a host computer is assumed, although not explicitly shown. FIG. 8 diagrammatically illustrates an**

exemplary embodiment of a 4-to-1 card detection circuit 1410 in accordance with the present invention. The exemplary card detection scheme of FIG. 8 enables a single passive adaptor to accommodate cards such as SmartMedia, SD/MMC, and Memory Stick, as well as indicating that no media card has been inserted in the passive adaptor". As also discloses, there's a voltage level of the diode (buffer) for each card), and the first buffer is activated to send the first control signal if the detection of the first voltage level of the first buffer is positive (col. 7 line 46 to col. 8 line 8 discloses the diodes (buffer) to send a signal base on a "high" voltage, see also fig. 13); or the memory card activates another interface for detecting the second voltage level of the second buffer when the memory card is inserted into a second card reader, and the second buffer is activated to send the second control signal if the detection of the second voltage level of the second buffer is positive

7. As per claim 2, Mowery discloses "The memory card as claimed in claim 1", (see rejection to claim 1 above) "wherein the one of the interfaces is for a SD card (see fig. 14).

8. As per claim 3, Mowery discloses "wherein the first voltage level is a high voltage level (see col. 5, line 17, where the voltage is 3.3V).

9. As per claim 4, Mowery discloses "wherein the first control signal is a CMD signal (col. 6, lines 7-12 discloses a signal to is uses to protect. An action will be done base on this signal, which makes it a command signal).

10. As per claim 5, Mowery discloses "wherein the another interface is for a MS card (see fig. 14) .

11. As per claim 6, Mowery discloses "wherein the second voltage level is a lower voltage level (see col. 5, line 17, where the second voltage is 1.8V, compare where the first voltage is 3.3V).

12. As per claim 7, Mowery discloses, "wherein the second control signal is a BS signal (SQRYDR signal, see col. 5, lines 27-31).

IV. RELEVANT ART CITED BY THE EXAMINER

13. The following prior art made of record and not relied upon is cited to establish the level of skill in the applicant's art and those arts considered reasonably pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See MPEP 707.05(c).

14. The following reference teaches an apparatus supporting multiple memory card formats.

U.S. PATENT NUMBER

US 2005/0060466

US 2005/0086433

US 2005/0117553

US 2006/0015673

US 2005/0273648

US 2004/0070952

US 6,908,038

US 2005/0037647

US 6,890,188

US 2003/0154326

V. CLOSING COMMENTS

Conclusion

a. STATUS OF CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION

15. The following is a summary of the treatment and status of all claims in the application as recommended by M.P.E.P. 707.07(i):

a(1) CLAIMS REJECTED IN THE APPLICATION

16. Per the instant office action, claims 1-7 have received a first action on the merits and are subject of a first action non-final.

b. DIRECTION OF FUTURE CORRESPONDENCES

17. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ernest Unelus whose telephone number is (571) 272-8596. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

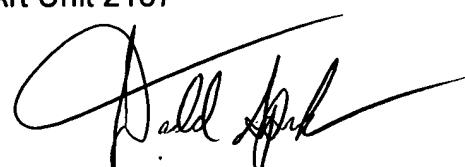
IMPORTANT NOTE

18. If attempts to reach the above noted Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Mr. Donald Sparks, can be reached at the following telephone number: Area Code (571) 272-4201.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

June 05, 2006

Ernest Unelus
Examiner
Art Unit 2187



DONALD SPARKS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER